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SENATE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of James C. Griggs, Jr. of Chicago, who passed away on October 9, 2008; and

WHEREAS, He was born on October 24, 1930 on the near westside of Chicago; he and his family moved to Maple Park in 1963; and

WHEREAS, His career began in 1947, when he served the Army in the Illinois National Guard; he went on to become a member of the Army Security Agency (ASA) with top secret clearance and attained a rank of sergeant; he was honorably discharged in September of 1957; he received a Bachelors of Arts from Roosevelt University in 1954, a Masters of Education from Illinois Teacher College in 1964, a Juris Doctorate from DePaul University in 1977, and a Ph.D. from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale in 1988; and

WHEREAS, In 1957, he started his career as a mental health sociologist with the Illinois Department of Mental Health; in 1958 he became a probation officer in Chicago; he was a probation officer with a caseload that was representative of all ethnic backgrounds; in 1960, he went to work for the City of Chicago, Commission on Youth Welfare, and the Chicago

1 Community on Urban Opportunity; he was responsible for managing
2 a community center which provided hope to the disenfranchised;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, In 1968, he went to work at the University of
5 Illinois-Chicago, where he served as Director of the
6 Educational Assistance Program (EAP), designed to increase
7 minority enrollment; he was also tenured as Associate Professor
8 in Higher Education; he became president of Malcolm X College
9 in 1977 and remained there until 1987; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2005 he became a developer and construction
11 manager, acquiring land, building and selling a single family
12 home on the southeast side of Chicago; and

13 WHEREAS, James C. Griggs, Jr. is survived by his wife,
14 Alice; his son, Eric James (Billie); and his granddaughter,
15 Jessica; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
18 his family and friends, the passing of James C. Griggs, Jr.;
19 and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
21 presented to the family of James C. Griggs, Jr. as a symbol of

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1 our sincere sympathy.